Menshek, Peggy Y

From: Sent: Jon Marquet <jonmarquet@hotmail.com> Thursday, February 16, 2012 10:02 AM

To:

Redistricting2012

Subject:

Comments on Ward Redistricting

Hello,

I likely will not be able to attend the public meetings and, as a resident of the East Harriet neighborhood, I wanted to give you my comments on the proposed Ward redistricting. As I understand it, the most recent proposal will split East Harriet between Ward 8 (36th St to the north; 46th St to the South; Lyndale Ave S to the east and Dupont/Kings Hwy to the west) and Ward 13 (42nd St to the north; 46th St to the south; Dupont/Kings Hwy to the east and Lake Harriet Pkwy to the west).

I am wholly against this proposal. It essentially selects the most affluent portion of our neighborhood and puts it in a different Ward from the rest of East Harriet. Further, Dupont and Lake Harriet Parkway, and the small, affluent streets in between, would join Linden Hills and Lynnhurst, *i.e.*, other, very affluent neighborhoods. The rest of East Harriet would be combined with far less advantaged neighborhoods to the north and east. (Indeed, even the ECCO neighborhood, another affluent neighborhood, has been carved out of Ward 8.)

I think socioeconomic diversity in the Wards is a real positive. This proposal undercuts the socioeconomic diversity in East Harriet's representation and carves up East Harriet based solely on socioeconomic grounds. It's a bad plan and it should not be implemented.

I consider this to be a very important issue and am truly disturbed by this proposal. Combined with the recent "community school" reconfiguring I think this spells near term disaster for East Harriet. I also can't help but wonder if by being put into a different Ward the affluent portions of East Harriet that this proposal excises will somehow receive a different "community school" designation than the rest of us.

Best, Jonathan Marquet 4109 Bryant Avenue South MPLS, MN 55409